



**THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FL**

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Dear Chancellor Oliva,

This letter is in response to your November 18, 2022 request to provide an update on the School District of Palm Beach County's action steps and plans to amend policies and procedures to comply with revised Florida law and State Board of Education rule. I have begun working with our School Board and staff to conduct a comprehensive review and we are taking action to reach full compliance in an expeditious manner. As indicated in your letter, some of our District policies and procedures "may have not yet been updated to comply with revised Florida law and State Board of Education rule." Our process to ensure full compliance is underway and the outline below provides a status update of the District and School Board's evaluation of its policies and procedures specifically related to student services and the revisions to Florida law and State Board of Education rules.

In preparation of your update to the State Board at their December 14 meeting, please note the steps the District and School Board are taking to review and amend, where needed, our policies and procedures:

- At the December 7, 2022 Board Meeting, our School Board modified their Equity Statement to be legally compliant as shown below.

School Board of Palm Beach County - Equity Statement (as of 12-7-22)

The School District of Palm Beach County is committed to creating safe, equitable and inclusive learning environments that ensure students have what they need to be successful in life.

The School District of Palm Beach County will provide each student – regardless of race, ethnicity, economic status, disability, national origin, religious affiliation, gender identity or sexual orientation – access to any and all opportunities, resources and support they need to develop agency, voice and achieve their dreams.

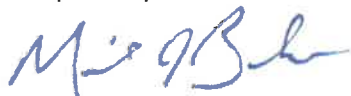
The School District of Palm Beach County will embrace, celebrate and honor our students, families, staff and community members and their unique cultural histories, while ensuring each student achieves personal, academic and sustainable success.

- School Board Policy 1.041 - Equity Policy is currently under review. In accordance with our policy development process, proposed revisions to Policy 1.041 will be presented to our Board at a Workshop, followed by Development and Adoption of the amended policy. Given the public notice requirements and multiple steps associated with the policy process, it will likely take approximately three months to update School Board Policy 1.041 to ensure compliance with Florida law and State Board of Education rules.

- In addition to Policy 1.041, the District and School Board are also systematically reviewing other policies and procedures that may need to be updated based on changes to State law and State Board of Education rules.
- The School District of Palm Beach County's LGBTQ+ Critical Support Guide has been removed from our website. Staff will be working with our Office of General Counsel to develop a new guide that is fully compliant with state statute, State Board of Education rule and reflective of recent changes to Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) guidance. Further, we intend to take advantage of your offer to connect our respective General Counsels to help with any legal questions that may arise as this work is completed.

Please note that our comprehensive internal review of our policies and procedures is intended to identify any needed revisions to our policies and/or procedures to comport with Florida law relating to student services and other recently amended laws and rules.

Respectfully,



Michael J. Burke

C: Board Members